SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Sir, a rehabilitation scheme was announced on 15th April, 1991, in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and SCICI. All these problems are there. The main problems which they have identified and which we have received are that (1) there is no viable fishing operation; (2) there is heavy interest rate by financial institutions and (3) there is private borrowing at a high rate of interest. All these problems are there. These are the main problem. All these industries are sometimes facing the problem of no operation or lying idle in the sea. All these problems have been identified by them and we have recommended them to the SCICI and the SCICI is considering them favourably. They were not rejected. I suppose out 27, 25 are approved. We are seriously considering them so that the deep-sea fishing industry could grow.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: He has not answered my question. My question is: What is the immediate application? Are they going to waive loans? Are they going subsidise the diesel and petrol prices? Are they going to give any kind of protection? Are they going to give...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Her question is limited to what you are going to do immediately before the Eighth Five Year Plan. Are you going to do anything before the Eighth Five Year Plan?

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: What I mentioned is that in the Eighth Five Year Plan we have a separate allocation for funding the deep-sea fishing. All these problems are submitted to the SCICL They provide subsidy to the vessel operators for the purpose of foreign exchange and another scheme was introduced only in April 1991. All these problems have been considered and the immediate request is for refund...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Failure of film festival in Germany

*305: SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have seen the report which appeared in Maharashtra Times Bombay dated 29th September, 1991 in connection with the failure of the film festival held in Germany, and if so, the details in this regard; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the bureaucracy have had an upper hand over professionals in the selection and management of the film festival?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) Yes, Sir. A statement is laid on the table of the House for details. *(See below)*.

(b) No, Sir.

Statement

The Government has seen an article in the Maharashtra Times of 20th September, 1991 regarding film segment of Festival of India in Germany. The article perceives some shortcomings in the arrangements for the film festival which opened in Berlin on 16th September, 1991. The contents of this article do not reperesnt a true picture. While it cannot be denied that the inaugural function did not attain the desired levels of glamour due to last minute refusll of some eminent film personalities to participate in the festival for personal reasons, it picked up momentum as it progressed.

Also there can be no question of disappointment among the viewers due to arrival of some prints after the inaugural function, sinle the festival is of substantial duration spreading over nearly 6 months and travelling to different cities in Germany, which would provide ample opportunity to the audiences in

different parts of Germany to view each and every film of the package. In fact 10 film prints which did not reach before the anaugural function were those to be gifted to the German Archives after their wide exhibition in the festival and would be permanently with the Germans and could be exhibited to the audiences even after the festival.

As regards the inaugural films, it is mentioned that there could be only one inaugural film. While the importance of any other film in the package cannot be denied, the selection of 'AGANTUK" as inaugural film was in no way unwise. The film has been subsequently selected in the Indian panorama '92- a rare distinction, which in itself puts to rest all the questions arousing doubt. It has been decided to screen ' Mahaprithivi' as closing film of the festival. All the prints were checked in India before despatch.

It is not true that there were more bureacaucrats than the film personalities attending the festival at Berlin since only one official viz., Director of Directoroate of Film Festivals who was the Commissioner of the film segment of the festival, was present on this occasion. Minister for Information and Broadcasting was invited to inaugurate, the festival. Film personalities viz., Shri Adoor Gopalakrishnan, an eminent film Director and Shri Dipankar Dey, hero of the film 'AGANTUK' also attended the inaugural function. Shri Amitabh Bachchan, Smt. Jaya Bachchan, Shri Satyajit Ray ad Ms. Mamta Shanker who initially consented to participate could not attend the festival due to personal reasons.

The package for screening during the festival was selected by the Directorate of Film Festivals, and attached office of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in consultation with the professional German coordinators under the auspices of the Department of Culture, Ministry of Human Resource Development. In fact only films, which had been selected by German professionals, were sent, by the Directorate of Film Festivals. The Directorate is the office equipped with all relevant inforation about the quality of films and the office specialises in selecting appropriate films for various festivals. It is, therefore, not correct to say that the bureaucracy had an upper hand over professioals in the selection and management of the film festival.

Biotechnology programmes for SC/ST

*306. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any biotechnology programmes/projects for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been formulated;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a multi disciplinary expert committee had been constituted to identify areas for employment generation and improving health and nutritional status of SC/ST population;

(d) if so, the areas identified by this Committee and its achievements; and

(e) whether any Biotechnology Project or Research and Development Centre or any other infrastructural facilities in this connection have been set up in Rajasthan: if not, the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (e) The Department of Biotechnology, in 1990, constituted an Expert Committee with the aim of promoting special biotechnology programmes to benefit the SC/ST population. Under the auspices of this Committee, so far 3 projects have been approved in the areas of carcas utilisation, improving health conditions and development of food technologies to benefit women in particular. These would cover the regions in Tamilnadu, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar. The broad areas identified by this Committee are: leather biotechnology, sericulture, aquaculture, mariculture, vocational training, man-